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COALITION OF CONNECTICUT SPORTSMEN

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Testimony presented to the public safety and security committee

IN SUPPORT of (RAISED) H.B. No. 5409 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR A TEMPORARY STATE PERMIT TO CARRY A PISTOL OR A REVOLVER.

by Robert T. Crook, Director

March 3, 2016

This bill has two sections of importance and we applaud the Committee for raising this bill.

In Section 1(a) **lines 6-7** Requests for temporary state permits under section 29-28 shall be submitted to the chief of police, or, where there is no chief of police, to the warden of the borough or the first selectman of the town, as the case may be, **on application forms prescribed by the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection (lines 6-7, long standing language).**

In Section 1(b) (1) (lines 28-32) **'A completed and notarized application on the forms described in subsection (a) of this section, which forms may not be modified or supplemented by the local authority with additional forms or with additional requests for information not otherwise required by law;'** This addition will standardize current permit procedures throughout the state and reinforces current language in Section 1(a).

The long-term problem has been that several municipalities have designed required forms that severely impact on privacy by requesting workplace data, bank statements, credit reports, and other items, not included on the State Police form causing applicants in those towns to produce information not required and a lengthening of their permit processing. As an example of non-compliance is a ruling by the Board of Firearm Permit Examiners some years ago stating three letters of reference were not required, but many towns currently continue the practice. Standardization will eliminate privacy concerns and statutory non-compliance. Investigations by police will not be impacted.

In Section 1(b)(2) excellent change to proof of eligibility. This language was originally submitted by the Board of Firearm Permit Examiners.

We urge passage of this proposal